

## PATIENT EDUCATION

Along with antibiotics or a prescription for antibiotics, your patient and their sex partner(s) should also be provided with our EPT Guide for Patients and Sex Partners located at:

<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/bchs/std/ept.htm>



## MORE INFO ABOUT EPT

Center for Disease Control and Prevention's 2015 STD treatment Guidelines:

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/tg2015/default.htm>

CDC EPT:

<https://www.cdc.gov/std/ept/default.htm>

NH DHHS:

<http://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/bchs/std/ept.htm>



## CONTACT US

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<https://www.dhhs.nh.gov/dphs/cdcs/index.htm>



# Expedited Partner Therapy (EPT)

*A Guide for Healthcare  
Providers*



## WHAT IS EPT?

EPT is the clinical practice of treating the heterosexual sex partner(s) of patients diagnosed with *Chlamydia trachomatis* or *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*. Healthcare providers practice EPT by giving their patients that are diagnosed with chlamydia or gonorrhea antibiotics or an antibiotic prescription to then give to their heterosexual sex partner(s) without first evaluating the partner(s). The practice is recommended if it is unlikely that the sex partner(s) will seek timely evaluation and treatment.

EPT IS LEGAL UNDER NH LAW RSA 141-C:15-A AS OF MAY 9, 2017

## WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

- Heterosexual sex partners your patient has had in the 60 days prior to their diagnosis of chlamydia or gonorrhea, or the most recent sexual partner if the patient's last sexual encounter was more than 60 days in the past.
- EPT cannot be used to treat other sexually transmitted diseases.
- **NOT** routinely recommended for men who have sex with men because of high risk for coexisting infections in partners, especially undiagnosed HIV infection and syphilis.
- **NOT** recommended for pregnant partners.
- **NOT** recommended for treatment of gonorrhea infections in the throat.

## WHY IS EPT IMPORTANT?

EPT is an evidence based practice that decreases rates of chlamydia and gonorrhea reinfection by increasing the number of sex partners appropriately treated for chlamydia and/or gonorrhea.

## RECOMMENDED TREATMENT

### CHLAMYDIA

1 gram of azithromycin orally in a single dose.

### GONORRHEA

800mg of cefixime orally in a single dose PLUS 1 gram of azithromycin orally in a single dose.

\*When azithromycin is unavailable or if there is concern about allergic reaction call the Division of Public Health Services at 603-271-4496

\*\*\***Note:** Oral cefixime should only be used for EPT.

The recommended antibiotics for a patient diagnosed with gonorrhea is a 250mg single dose of ceftriaxone intramuscularly PLUS a 1 gram single dose of azithromycin orally. If a sex partner has a known allergy or contraindication to a recommended EPT treatment, they should be referred to a healthcare provider.

## PRESCRIPTION FORMAT

The EPT prescription should include:

- Healthcare provider or healthcare facility name and address
- Date of prescription
- Medication name and dosage
- Directions for antibiotic use
- Number of refills (should be "zero")